

**Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR)**  
**Washington Department of Ecology WCC/AmeriCorps**  
**Positions in Research/Monitoring and Education**

We would like to announce two Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) and AmeriCorps positions hosted at Padilla Bay: **Research and Monitoring Assistant** and **Education Assistant**. Each Assistant will have primary duties in their own sector (Research and Monitoring or Education) but will occasionally share duties with other sectors at the Reserve. The positions will begin Oct. 2, 2017, and extend through Sept. 7, 2018. The schedule will be forty hours weekly but flexibility will be required, including periodic shifts on weekends, field projects, or travel.

For more information about WCC and AmeriCorps, including other available opportunities, description of the Individual Placement (IP) positions, and online application, please visit [www.ecy.wa.gov/wcc/](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/wcc/). The online application opens in early July and review of applicants begins July 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Wage and benefits:**

Pay is Washington State Minimum Wage (currently \$11/hr) plus access to a basic health insurance policy. An AmeriCorps Education Award valued at \$5,815 will be awarded upon successful completion of the 11 month (1700 hour) service term. Education awards can be applied to student loans or used for future education expenses. Payments on existing educational loans can be put in forbearance for the duration of these positions. Other benefits and requirements are described on the WCC/AmeriCorps website: [www.ecy.wa.gov/wcc/](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/wcc/)

**Qualifications:**

Applicants must be between the ages of 18 and 25 (inclusive) on October 2, 2017. Returning military veterans are exempt from the age restriction. Priority is given to Washington State residents. College graduates are eligible and encouraged to apply. Preference will be given to applicants for the Research and Monitoring position who have prior experience in marine biology/ecology, research experience, and field and laboratory science skills.

**Education Assistant Position:**

The schedule for this position is Tuesday through Saturday. Primary duty is presenting Padilla Bay's estuary education program to school and community groups but the Assistant will also have some duties in the Operations and Research departments. This includes:

- Assisting professional educators with implementation of existing programs for school field trips, families and other youth groups;
- Facilitate and/or develop special environmental education projects for target audiences;
- Helping organize a professional conference for environmental educators;
- Develop and maintain educational materials, exhibits and aquaria;
- Outreach to Spanish speaking families (as skills allow);
- Assist with Padilla Bay research scientists with their projects in the field and laboratory;

**Research and Monitoring Assistant position:**

The Research and Monitoring Assistant will gain a broad range of experience in field projects and laboratory analyses related to estuarine ecology and marine science and also develop an independent research project. In this regard, the position is a great opportunity for those considering future careers

in resource management, ocean science, or graduate studies in marine or environmental studies

The primary duties are to assist with a variety of estuarine and watershed monitoring and research projects at the Reserve. Projects will be conducted in a range of settings, including rocky intertidal, eelgrass habitats, and open water. Specific responsibilities include:

- assisting with data entry, statistical analyses, and graphing of selected data;
- assisting the Research Team with laboratory analyses and sample processing, including filtering and weighing samples, counting organisms, and general lab tasks in support of research;
- participating in open water, vessel-based research and monitoring throughout the year;
- assisting with monitoring of water quality with field instruments, assisting with calibration and maintenance of instruments, and collecting and analyzing water samples.
- contributing to dissemination of research to broader audiences by submissions to the Padilla Bay newsletter, giving presentations, or working with interpretive center staff.

The Research and Monitoring Assistant will also develop and conduct their own independent research project that contributes to one or more of the research priorities of the Reserve. Current research priorities include blue carbon and carbon sequestration, trends and impacts of ocean acidification, changes in water quality and oceanographic properties as a result of climate change, rocky intertidal ecology, fish and invertebrate use of eelgrass habitat, and basic ecology related to non-native vs. native eelgrass species and the ecosystem services they provide.

**To apply:**

All applicants must apply on-line at [www.ecy.wa.gov/wcc/](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/wcc/). In addition, **to be considered for either of the positions at Padilla Bay, all applicants must submit the following documents:**

- 1) cover letter indicating interest in the position;
- 2) resume with contact information, educational background, and work experience; and
- 4) contact information for three references.

Electronic submission of materials is preferred and can be sent to the email contacts listed below.

Please use the following filename format for submissions: Lastname\_Firstname\_Documentname.pdf.

If you are interested in either position, feel free to contact the Research Coordinator (Dr. Jude Apple) or Education Coordinator (Susan Wood) to discuss your interest in the position or schedule a visit.

Dr. Jude Apple Research Coordinator, Padilla Bay NERR <a href="mailto:japple@padillabay.gov">japple@padillabay.gov</a> 360-428-1089	Susan Wood Education Coordinator, Padilla Bay NERR <a href="mailto:swood@padillabay.gov">swood@padillabay.gov</a> 360-428-1066
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You may also send applications via postal mail to:

Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
10441 Bay View - Edison Rd.  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273